



**Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Southern District of Texas**

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MISSION, TEXAS MAN INDICTED FOR POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

MCALLEN, TX – Pedro Calderon III, 40, of Mission, Texas, was arrested by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents on Thursday, March 23, 2006, for possessing child pornography on his home computer. United States Attorney Donald J. DeGabrielle, Jr. today announced that the arrest is the result of the issuance of a warrant following the return of a an indictment on March 14, 2006 charging Calderon with the federal felony offense of possession of child pornography.

Calderon appeared before United States Magistrate Judge Peter E. Ormsby on Thursday. Following a brief hearing, the court ordered Calderon released from federal custody on an unsecured bond in the amount of \$30,000. The court denied the request of the United States that Calderon be held in federal custody without bond. However, the court did grant the request of the United States that the conditions of Calderon's release prohibit any contact with children under the age of 18 and access to the internet pending his trial.

Calderon entered a not guilty plea to the indictment and is set for trial on May 2, 2006.

The possession of child pornography charge carries a maximum statutory sentence of ten (10) year prison term and a maximum fine of \$250,000, upon conviction.

The indictment is the result of a six month investigation first initiated by the Mission Police Department later joined by special agents of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency. The Federal Bureau of Investigation assisted during the investigation. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Alex Lewis.

The public is reminded that an Indictment is a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until convicted through due process of law.

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